

Remark

The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. In this amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1, 10, 11, 19 and 20 to place the claims in better form. No new matter has been added with these amendments. No claims have been cancelled. Hence, claims 1 – 23 are pending in this application after the filing of this amendment.

Summary of Examiner Interview

The Applicant's agent sincerely appreciates the courtesy extended by the Examiner in a telephonic interview on Thursday, October 13. Those in attendance were inventor Robert Israel, the Examiner, and Applicant's agent. Claim 1 was discussed with respect to Bennefeld et al. (EP1014633) and Yamamoto et al. (4,991,204). No agreement was reached. The Examiner suggested to amend claim 1 to include the word "dynamically" in determining availability of gateway resources, in order to further distinguish claim 1 from the prior art. As such, with this amendment, claim 1 has been amended to include the word "dynamically" prior to "determine resource availability". In addition, independent claims 10 and 19 have been similarly amended.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1 – 7, 10 – 16, and 19 – 23 were rejected over Bennefeld in view of Yamamoto. Claims 8, 9, 17, and 18 were rejected over Bennefeld in view of Yamamoto, and in further view of Harada.

Applicant has thoroughly reviewed Bennefeld, Yamamoto, and Harada, and is unable to find all the elements of any of claims 1 – 23 taught or suggested in any of those references either separately or in combination.

For example, amended claim 1 recites in part, a directory gatekeeper including a processor operable to send a request to a selected resource management gatekeeper to initiate a call through a gateway resource associated with the selected resource management gatekeeper, wherein in response to a received request, the selected resource management gatekeeper performs alternate routing by dynamically determining an available gateway resource, and notifying the directory gatekeeper of the determined gateway resource, and wherein the directory

gatekeeper notifies an inbound gatekeeper of the available gateway resource, whereby the call can be directed through the available gateway resource. Applicant can find no teaching or suggestion of at least this element in Bennefeld, Yamamoto, or Harada, either separately or in combination.

As such, claim 1 and its respective dependent claims are believed to be allowable for at least the foregoing reasons.

As another example, claim 10 recites, in part, a method for performing alternate routing of calls in a directory gatekeeper including selecting a route from a list of possible routes by querying a selected resource management gatekeeper to dynamically determine availability of gateway resources associated with the selected route. Again, Applicant can find no teaching or suggestion of at least the foregoing element of claim 10 in Bennefeld, Yamamoto, or Harada, either separately or in combination.

As such, claim 10 and its respective dependent claims are believed to be allowable for at least the foregoing reasons. For similar reasons, claim 19 and its dependent claims are believed to be allowable over Bennefeld, Yamamoto, and Harada.

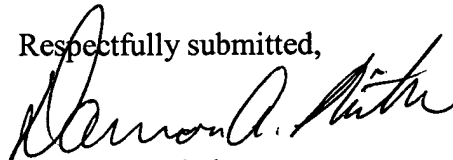
Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the foregoing remarks have addressed all the issues raised in the Office action, have overcome the rejections, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejections be withdrawn and that a Notice of Allowance be issued forthwith.

Request for a Telephone Interview

If the Office believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-447-7739.

Respectfully submitted,



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